States which have not implemented the same;

(d) whether any financial assistance was to be provided by the Union Government to the States and if so to what extent;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring the service rendered in hospitals and also the houses constructed by Government/private agencies within the purview of the Act, if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 the responsibility for setting up of Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums/Commissions rests with the State Governments/UT Administrations. According to information available with the Central Government, all the States/UTs have notified the State Commissions out of which 27 have started functioning. So far the Commissions have not started functioning in Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim. Similarly, as per reports sent by State Governments, the District Forums have been notified for all the districts except newly created districts. Out of notified District Forums, 351 District Forums have started functioning. The names of remaining districts where District Forums have not started functioning are being collected from the State Governments.

(b) The main reasons, as reported by State Governments for delay in setting up of redressal agencies are financial constrains, availability of suitable persons, etc.

(c) In its order dated 19 September, 1989, Hon'ble Supreme Court directed all the States/UTs to set up State Commissions and District Forums in all the Districts within 6 weeks. However, the same have not been fully complied with by some of the States. The States where the State Commissions/ District Forums have not been made functional at all are Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim.

(d) Union Government is not providing any financial assistance to States and UTs for setting up of State Commissions and District Forums. This expenditure is to be met by them from their non-plan budget.

(e) and (f). Central Government has constituted a high power working group to suggest suitable amendments to Consumer Protection Act, 1986 for making it more effective. The suggestions to bring services rendered in Hospital and also housing by Government/Private agencies, within the purview of the Act have been referred to the working group.

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States

*93 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of Planning and Programme Implementation be pleased to state:

(a) the brief particulars of the Central and Centrally sponsored schemes that are proposed to be transferred wholly to the State Government; and

(b) the brief particulars of such schemes as will continue to be wholly or partially controlled by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) and (b). The National Development Council (NDC) in 1985 had set up a Committee of the NDC under Chairmanship of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the

then Minister of Human Resources Development to examine the various issues regarding the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee with the assistance of a Group of Officials appointed by it went into the matter in 1986 and 1987 and listed out schemes which in their opinion, should be retained and those that could be transferred to the States or discontinued. The Committee finalised its report in 1987. The report of the NDC Committee is yet to be formally placed before the NDC. The list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes examined by the NDC Committee in 1986 and 1987 has become somewhat outmoted with the introduction of new schemes (e.g. Rozgar Yojana Schemes) and dropping of some of the earlier schemes.

2. It has been decided by the present Government that the recommendations of the NDC Committee should be taken as accepted unless it is decided by the NDC to transfer/discontinue/drop more Centrally Sponsored Schemes as a part of the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

3. A Statement indicating 113 Centrally Sponsored Schemes proposed by the NDC Committee to be transferred to the States is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in library, *See* L.T. No. 1283/91]

4. Presently, no Central Sector schemes are proposed to be transferred to the State Governments.

Supply of Food Stuff to West Bengal

*94. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has supplied the required quantity of food stuff to West Bengal during the current year;

(b) whether the problem of shortage of wagons has been sorted out with the Ministry of Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The percentage of supply of Wheat and Rice to West Bengal vis-a-vis allocation has been 82.77% during the current year, compared to 77.58% last year.

(b) and (c). Supply of Wagons by the Railways to the Food Corporation of India is an operational matter involving continuous consultations. Whenever there is a problem of Wagon we sorted out the same in consultation with the Railway Authorities.

(d) Question does not arise.

Estimated Requirement of Houses

[*Translation*]

*95. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of houses required in the urban areas of the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of houses proposed to be constructed in such areas during the Plan; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon and the extent to which the housing requirement would be met as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):